

Article XVII

Player Limits and Eligibility

Cutdowns and Player Limits

- 17.1 (A) Subject to paragraphs (B) through (D) of this Section 17.1, clubs will be limited to a year-round roster limit of 80 players on the following combined lists: Active, Inactive, Reserve/Injured, Reserve/Physically Unable to Perform, Reserve/Non-Football Illness/Injury, Reserve/Suspended, Practice Squad, Exempt, and Future. The 80-player limit will not include any players on the following lists: Reserve/Retired, Reserve/Did Not Report, Reserve/Left Squad, Reserve/Military, un-signed draft choices, unsigned Veteran Free Agents, Unprotected Players, and players who have been declared ineligible to participate (suspended) by the Commissioner.
- (B) Any players placed on Reserve/Injured prior to the roster reduction to 65 players on the Active List will not count on the club's overall roster limit of 80 players, provided that the club requested waivers on the player with the designation "injured" and placed the player on Reserve/Injured immediately after the expiration of the claiming period and provided that all such players will count on the club's overall 80-man roster limit after 4:00 p.m., New York time, on the day of the cut-down to 65 players.
- (C) Any players placed on Reserve/Physically Unable to Perform or Reserve/Non-Football Injury/Illness prior to the roster reduction to 65 players on the Active List will not count on the club's overall roster limit of 80 players, provided that the club requests waivers on the player with the designation "Failed Physical" immediately upon reporting to training camp and failing the club's physical examination and that the club places the player on Reserve/PUP or Reserve/NF/I immediately after the expiration of the claiming period. All such players will count on the club's overall roster limit after 4:00 p.m., New York time, on the day of the cutdown to 65 players. All players so placed on Reserve/PUP or Reserve/NF/I shall not be eligible to play or practice for that club for the remainder of the regular season and postseason, notwithstanding other provisions in this Constitution and Bylaws. The same provisions shall apply to a Vested Veteran who is placed on Reserve/PUP or Reserve/NF/I immediately upon failing the training camp

physical examination, provided that the club declares to the League office at such time that the player shall be ineligible to practice or play for the remainder of the regular season and postseason.

- (D) If a player has passed his club's training camp physical examination and is placed on Reserve/Non-Football Injury/Illness prior to the roster reduction to 65 players on the Active List, he will not count on the club's overall roster limit of 80 players, provided that the club requests waivers on the player with the designation "Non-Football Injury/Illness" and provided that the club places the player on Reserve/NFI immediately after the expiration of the claiming period. All such players will count on the club's overall roster limit of 80 players after 4:00 p.m., New York time, on the day of the cutdown to 65 players. All players so placed on Reserve/NFI shall not be eligible to play or practice for that club for the remainder of the regular season and postseason. The same provisions shall apply to a Vested Veteran who is placed on Reserve/NFI after passing his club's training camp physical examination.
- (E) If a player, after reporting to training camp, leaves his club without permission, and the club is granted an exemption, such player will not count on the club's overall roster limit of 80 players until 4:00 p.m., New York time, on the day of the cutdown to 65 players on the Active List, or until the player returns to the club, whichever occurs first.
- (F) Subject to the provisions of Section 17.3 of this Article, clubs will be required to reduce their Active Lists to 65 players by 4:00 p.m., New York time, on the Tuesday after the third pre-season weekend and to 53 players by 4:00 p.m., New York time, on the Sunday before the first regular season game. The claiming period for players on waivers at the final cutdown shall be 12 noon, New York time, on Monday.
- (G) No player may play with any team unless an executed contract with that team is on file in the office of the Commissioner, pursuant to the provisions of Section 15.6. This number shall include all veteran players upon whom options have been exercised for the applicable year, except a veteran player discharged for military service subsequent to June 1st in the applicable year.
- (H) Notwithstanding other provisions of this Constitution and Bylaws allowing recall of waiver requests under certain circumstance, the following rules are in effect with respect to waivers

involving players who do not meet the physical standards of the club: Any waiver request on an injured player and any waiver request on a player who fails the club physical may not be recalled and no claim on any such player may be withdrawn.

Active/Inactive Lists

- 17.2 The Active List, for the purposes of this Article, shall consist of all players eligible to play in any preseason, regular season, playoff, championship, or postseason game then under contract to the club within the applicable player limit as set out in the preceding section. This Section 17.2, and succeeding Section 17.3 are in force only within the provisions of the applicable player limit in a given year.
- 17.3 One hour and 30 minutes prior to kickoff, each club is required to establish its 45-player Active List for the game by notifying the Referee of the players on its Inactive List for that game. Each club may also identify one player on its Inactive List who may dress for the game, provided that (1) such player is a quarterback; (2) the club has two quarterbacks on its 45-player Active List; (3) if the third quarterback enters the game during the first three periods, he must replace one of the club's other two quarterbacks, neither of whom may thereafter return to the game under any circumstances; and (4) if the third quarterback enters the game during the fourth period or any overtime period, he must replace one of the club's other two quarterbacks, either of whom is permitted to return to the game.

Players on the Inactive List, except for the Third Quarterback, are prohibited from participating in game day warm-ups with their teams for all preseason, regular season, and post-season games, except the Super Bowl. Except for the Third Quarterback, they are also prohibited from dressing in game uniforms on game days, or representing their teams in pregame ceremonies. They may be in the bench area during the game provided they dress in clothing issued by the club to its game staff and display appropriate bench area credentials.

For the Super Bowl game only, Inactive List players may participate in game day warm-ups in their uniforms. During the game, they are permitted in the bench area, provided they dress in clothing issued by the club (which may include game jersey) to its game staff and display appropriate bench area credentials.

Any club that makes a roster change on game-day, subject to the provisions outlined above, also has the responsibility of confirming